

# KINGS' MEETING MADE A NEW SCANDINAVIA

The Conference at Malmo Believed to Insure the Neutrality and United Action of Norway, Sweden and Denmark

By JULIUS MORITZEN.

SCANDINAVIA has come to the conclusion that the Malmo conference between Gustaf V., Christian X. and Haakon VII. marks a turning point in the political status of the Northland.

No event in generations has justified itself more in respect to the needs of the hour in Scandinavia than this meeting of the Kings of Sweden, Denmark and Norway on Swedish soil. The agreement entered into with a view of solidifying interests and strengthening their neutrality is a declaration to the effect that henceforth the three nations will make common cause, both during the continuance of the world war and after.

The function of royalty in the northern countries is to carry out the wishes of the people. Picturesque as was this meeting of the three Kings, the presence at the conference of the Foreign Ministers, Seavenius, Wallenberg and Ihlen, respectively of Denmark, Sweden and Norway, was what gave significance to the gathering.

With scarcely an exception, the press of Scandinavia hailed the Malmo conference as epoch-making, and now that the immediate enthusiasm has had time to pass away the opinion nevertheless prevails that for the first time in a century or more the northern countries are an entity with which even the great Powers will have to reckon. This fact has become a stimulus so pronounced that it is not too much to say that a new Scandinavia has risen on the foundation of the nations comprising the tripartite league on the Baltic and the North Sea.

As an important expression of what the conference meant to Scandinavia, the leading editorial in the Norwegian newspaper *Social-Demokraten* is worth recording. In its translated form:

"All who have the slightest knowledge of political affairs," said this mouthpiece of the Social Democratic party, "must realize the importance of the meeting which is to take place at Malmo between the three Kings of the north and their Foreign Ministers. Under circumstances as those of the present, the meeting must have its effect on those chancelleries which are less open, since the beginning of the war, have labored to draw one or several of the Scandinavian countries into the conflict."

"These three now realize that there is complete unity between the three kingdoms as regards preserving absolute neutrality. This stand is taken against all of the warring Powers as a warning that this neutrality will be enforced."

"Of the six men to meet there have royal titles. But what concerns the world at large is the fact that the three rulers of the north engage in a demonstration the political significance of which rests with the constitutionally responsible Foreign Ministers that accompany the monarchs. The Europe which is now aflame has always been extremely sensitive as regards demonstrations of this kind. It is certain that at the present moment this sensitivity will be more pronounced than ever."

"Here in the north it has made a good impression that the initiative for the gathering, the invitation for the meeting, came from the Swedish King. Nothing shows better how powerful and influential has been that peace propaganda the foundation of which was laid by the Swedish and Norwegian workingmen in one of the most critical periods of the peninsula. History shows that one of the greatest obstacles to peace work between different peoples has come from the dynasties. So long as dynasties exist these obstacles will remain. But the people themselves have it in their power to neutralize this dynastic influence."

"It is but nine years since we deposed the ruler of the union and took away the right of his son as heir to the land and, sad to remember, took on a new King. Who would then have thought that the deposed and the new King would so soon after have clasped hands in friendship and pledged each other to work for the identical purpose?"

"But it is not the rulers that we have to thank for this condition. It is the people themselves, especially the working classes, that have never tired in their agitation for peace and fraternity between the brother nations; it is they who have spurred those at the top to stand forth and proclaim the Scandinavian countries' peace sentiment at this moment."

"We care not for royal demonstrations, and scarcely considered the Malmo conference essential for its own sake. It may give the world the wrong impression that it is the Kings who represent the peace work of the north. It would have been better had the three Premiers and the three Foreign Ministers met instead. As it is, the rulers sought the opportunity to appear before the world, and, as we have said, the meeting can hardly fail in its effect on the external politics of Scandinavia."

"It is stated in the official communiqué that the conference is to give special attention to matters pertaining to the economic situation so as to minimize the difficulties that have come with the war. We desire to emphasize this, that the conference will discuss only matters of economic interest, so that there will be cooperation in all things bearing on the situation. It is necessary to recall this in an hour when Prof. Nansen, in company of the Swedish Minister in Christiania and

members of the Swedish Government, is traveling through Sweden agitating for a military defensive union between Norway and Sweden. Such a union the two peoples will have nothing to do with."

It is not so certain that the opinion of *Social-Demokraten* on the score of a military alliance is that of the whole people in Norway or the adjoining country. It is to be recalled that the Socialists of Scandinavia have been ardent opponents of military rule in any form, and it is probably true that the sentiment for preparedness is more pronounced in Sweden than in either of the other two countries of the north. Whether it would have been better if the three Foreign Ministers and the three Premiers of Sweden, Norway and Denmark had met at Malmo without their royal masters is a question not easy to decide offhand. At any rate, the satirical reception tendered to three monarchs by the Swedish students and the population of Malmo indicated that the Kings had popular support worth having.

It is also worth mentioning how Wallenberg, the Foreign Minister of Sweden, expressed himself when approached by the representative of the Petrograd Telegram Bureau, Dr. von Markoff, immediately following the conference. Wallenberg made it clear that the meeting was but the first of a series of such conferences as might follow at regular intervals. The statesman declared with emphasis that the Malmo meeting was directed against no other nation, but that Scandinavia was anxious to maintain its neutrality throughout the war.

It was remarked during the Malmo meeting that the three Kings were dressed as civilians and that there was an entire absence of military display in the city, although the residences and public buildings were decorated with the colors of the three nations as indication of the unity prevailing among the Scandinavian peoples. In every way the rulers and their advisers made it clear that the intentions of the meeting were of the most pacific kind.

Much as King Gustaf has the military preparedness plan at heart, there was nothing to show that he did not prefer civilian government for his country. It was this matter of fact way of coming together that testified to the earnestness back of the conference, and which assures its permanent value.

Although in complete sympathy with the purpose of the Malmo meeting, the Scandinavian press has been somewhat guarded in expressing an opinion which carries the subject beyond the immediate environment of the Northland. It was readily left for the newspapers of the belligerent nations to treat of the event from the international point of view.

Even before the conference was held the leading papers of the European capitals discussed the question whether any particular Power was pointed at in this coming together of the three rulers of Scandinavia. Russia seemed particularly anxious to learn the exact circumstances that led to the conference, and it was first to say that it considered it a wise precaution for Denmark, Norway and Sweden to join issues, something, said the Russian journals, that could only prove of advantage to the Czar's Government.

The German and Austrian newspapers seem pleased with the unwavering alliance of Scandinavia. The Vienna *Freidenkblatt* calls the Malmo conference one of the important results of the war. "Even though the gathering of the three Kings may not result in the resolution of the Kalmar Union," the *Freidenkblatt* declared, "it

is at least certain that the three kingdoms have found each other in a renewed friendship and understanding and this will undoubtedly be of great importance in the future."

The Berlin *Morgenpost* takes occasion to hit at Russia when it remarks that Sweden and Norway have a dangerous neighbor who threatens their very existence. As for Denmark, that country can hardly have forgotten England's attack on Copenhagen in 1801 and 1807. Time is ripe for the realization of a defensive and offensive Scandinavian union, insists this German newspaper.

The *Berliner Tageblatt* discusses the

east has since the beginning of the world war gained force. There is no doubt that England's action in making shipping difficult has been one of the causes for the meeting of the three Kings. The meeting gives assurance that nothing will keep the countries from following their announced neutrality, and Germany is in full sympathy with this desire."

The real importance of the Malmo meeting lies in the fact that at last Scandinavia will speak with one voice where the identical interests of the northern part of Europe are concerned. The large Socialist element in all three countries, much as it abhors militarism, will yet lend its support to anything that will help bring the Scandinavian nations to a level with the most powerful of the warring groups.

In the future what concerns one of these lands must concern them all. Gustaf of Sweden, Christian of Denmark and Haakon of Norway have succeeded in opening the way for a new

# TRAIN COLLEGE MEN FOR MILITARY SERVICE

By CHARLES H. SPOONER, President Norwich University.

IT takes but a half decade of an even century since Capt. Partridge in a lecture which has become a classic enunciated the principles that the instruction of college men should include courses in "military training, both theoretical and practical," that no such man, physically sound, might count the preparation for his life work complete unless he had prepared himself to defend what he and others had produced for the welfare of family, State and nation. Forty years later, while our nation

President of Norwich University Advocates Plan to Fit Men While at College to Lead Troops in Time of Need

cultural colleges a clause requiring such institutions to give to all their male students "military instruction, both theoretical and practical." This they have done with a degree of efficiency varying from time to time and from college to college.

The fact is that the essentials of military training involve so much more than the technicalities of drill, knowledge of the facts of history and of law that few of the colleges have been willing or able to undertake the work with any degree of thoroughness. As a rule they have tried to hold a portion of their men to restrictions and observances incident to military discipline while others have been free from it. For the best results in school or college in this, as in other matters not academic, must conform to the same general requirements. This is true in largest measure when the requirements consist of a few hours drill per week, as has been the rule. Exceptional men in charge of military work under such a condition have succeeded in getting most excellent results, but all too frequently they have felt that they faced an impossible situation and the result has been that the military was shunned and disliked by the students and every possible excuse used to obtain freedom therefrom. I expect that in most such cases, back of the student body among the faculty, have been men blind to the value of the training so far as it immediately affects the young man, and ignorant or indifferent to its ultimate worth to the State and the nation. Critical or slighting words on the subject, uttered thoughtlessly or wilfully in the presence of students, have created or fostered unhappy conditions.

In reality, valuable as drill and instruction may be made where a student body is not under continual control of the military type, the best essentials of real military training cannot be so imparted. These essentials are able rather than discipline which comes only by living with men under control; not merely being controlled, but being part of the controlling power, little by little rising to the responsibility which authority gives and coming to use and not abuse that authority. The beginning of success in dealing with large bodies of men, in barracks, in camp or field, lies in the performance of the simple duties of the private. It grows out of the discipline of the performance of the duties of corporal and sergeant and of lieutenant, etc. There is a mistaken idea that the exercise of authority with the accompanying responsibility means "bossing" and bringing punishment upon offenders. It is a misfortune if such things become necessary. In reality the responsibility and the authority point rather to the prevention of offense, the anticipation of the need of discipline for offense and to the direction of the possible offender therefrom.

This training, as I view it, aims not to develop among its recipients men for the rank and file of a fighting force, but rather the development of a body of men competent to train a fighting force. I am assuming in my own mind that the object sought can be thus obtained and that the best of all these means, school, college and military college, so classified by the Government, is this last, which requires college men from the day they enter to the day they leave to live a life essentially military.

For technical skill and for much else our great Government schools are surpassingly fine for fitting men for the regular service, and with the ripening of years, for high rank in the volunteers. The graduate of the military college will have less technical skill than these, know less perhaps of saps and

mines, explosives, projectiles and all that, but the chances are good that his graduation he will better know the nature of mind of the men of his region open to enlistment as volunteers; better know the men who are to be his officers and make of them the splendid fighting units that such became in the civil war. With waste of life most appalling, nearly three years of that war were spent in selecting and developing officers who could and would do the work as it should be done. When they had been selected, they produced, the first new levies of volunteers, the first armies the world has ever seen, barring not even the fighting machines of the German nation.

So far as may be, without working real hardship and suffering, the best of our military colleges reproduce the experiences which made those officers and they add thereto a far wider experience in military matters technical, all in conjunction with the academic work of college or of technical school. I am not unmindful of the value of the military experience gained in the militia and in the drill in school and college and in summer encampments. The men who share in these gain very much of high value in time of specific need and much which serves most happily in their civil pursuits. The results of training through these means are all good and will be completed.

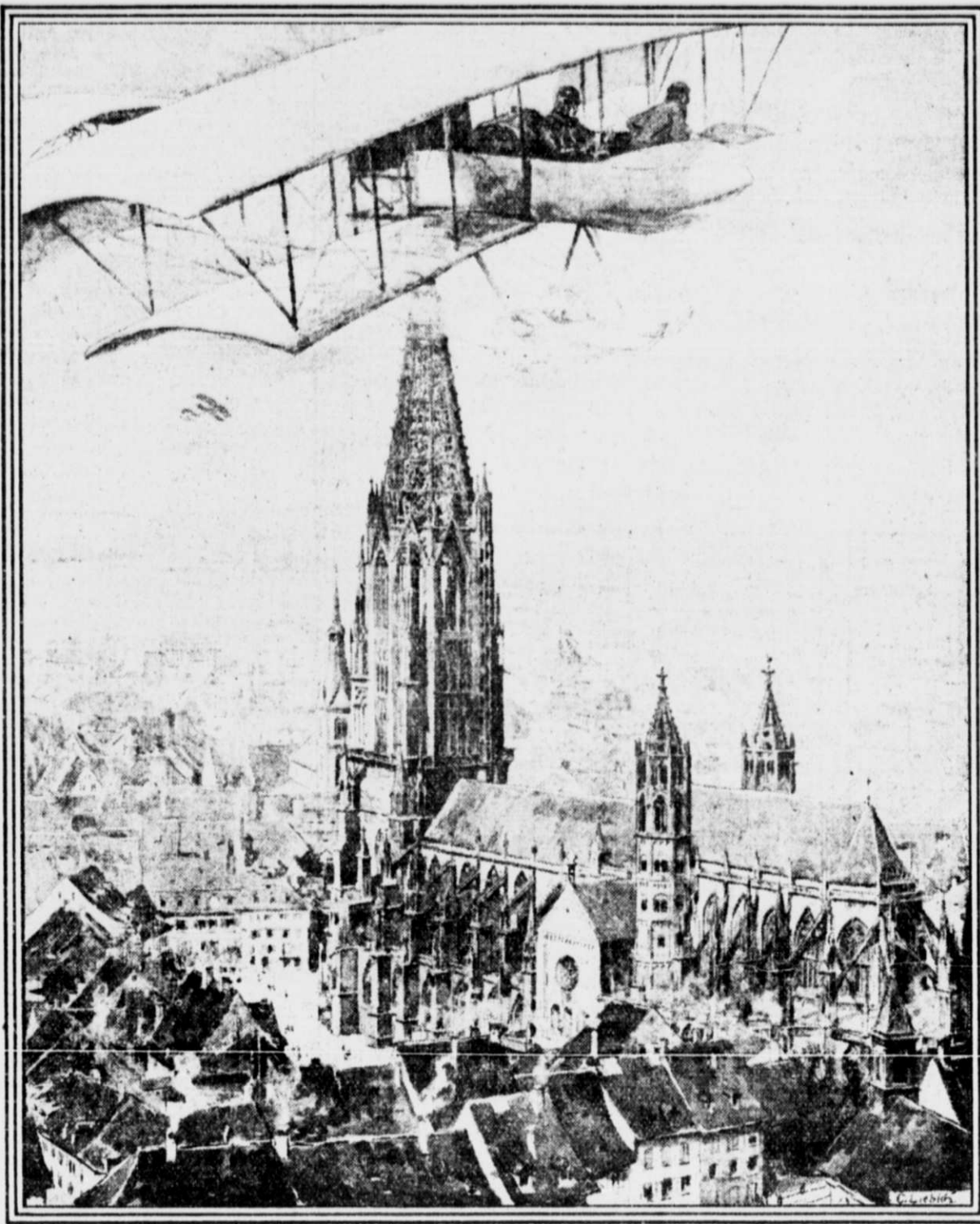
But however good these may be there is one thing which the General Government and the State have failed to do in connection therewith. They have failed to find a way to make a note and to keep record of the men who have had such training, who they are, how qualified and where they may be found if needed. It will cost something to get out of to keep such a record and cost something to make such men want to be so noted and recorded. But it should be done, unless, indeed, we as a nation are to adopt some system of compulsory military service. For the moment the people of this country are not prepared for such a system and it is not plain that there is need of it, wholesome as it would be in many respects.

Unless compulsory service is adopted more should be done by nation, by State, or by both, to improve the forms of training now existing in school and college, in military school and military college.

Of necessity I see most clearly some things pertaining to the last. I believe the records attest their extraordinary worth. At another time and for specific purpose I wrote: "It is suggested that such schools tend to foster the military spirit. I don't think, for to have so studied arms is to know when and how to use them, to have so studied the art and practice of war is to have learned its horrors, and the senselessness or wickedness which provokes it. It is the clamor of those ignorant of these things which precipitates war. It was the voice of the uneducated that cried for war with Spain months before it came, in such manner that the minutes of the paper, by telegraph, by any means, any day have been willing to provoke war with any nation. The man rightly trained in these matters following his daily vocation in civil life is not a firebrand, not a provoker of hostilities, but an active conservator of peace."

All thoughtful persons are keenly alive to the need of finding suitable and effective means for conserving the peace spirit. I don't think, for to have so studied arms is to know when and how to use them, to have so studied the art and practice of war is to have learned its horrors, and the senselessness or wickedness which provokes it. It is the clamor of those ignorant of these things which precipitates war. It was the voice of the uneducated that cried for war with Spain months before it came, in such manner that the minutes of the paper, by telegraph, by any means, any day have been willing to provoke war with any nation. The man rightly trained in these matters following his daily vocation in civil life is not a firebrand, not a provoker of hostilities, but an active conservator of peace."

## German Artist Depicts French Raid on Cathedral



The accompanying illustration from the *Illustrirte Zeitung* shows a French airman dropping bombs on cathedral in the open town of Freiburg in Breisgau on December 13.

conference dispassionately as follows: "The idea for a living, political alliance within the three northern kingdoms for the protection of their neutrality and the cure of their identical inter-

ests, an alliance of peace and harmony, and yet an alliance, not written on paper, which will see it that Scandinavia's neutrality remains inviolate now and at any time."

was in the throes of the civil war, Senator Morrill, a neighbor of Capt. Partridge, having lived all his life near to the institution founded by the Captain, wrote into the act establishing the agri-

## Cecil Chesterton Has Message Against Woman Suffrage

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of a woman—Miss J. K. Prothers; isn't that sure proof of my trust?"

"What do I believe in theoretically—doubtless you will laugh at this—is votes for ladies—excesses, of course, by their parents. For instance, a man with a wife and ten children would have twelve votes to cast. This is how I would arrange things were I constituting a free commonwealth—I'd have votes for all. That, you see, is carrying out my idea of the family as a collective unit in the building up of the State."

"But a man's wife and children might not agree with him; don't you think there might be a variety of opinions in a household?" the reporter suggested. But Mr. Chesterton did not think so. Although he confesses to being an unmarried man himself, he is convinced that in matters of politics and voting, at least, a family must agree within itself. He cannot conceive of dissension on such subjects.

Mr. Chesterton is a strong nationalist and is not very much interested in internationalism. "I don't know what internationalism means," he insists; "but I do believe that a man's loyalty is primarily due to his own nation. I don't believe at all in the Prussian doctrine of might making right, but I do see the necessity of certain strict moral obligations among nations."

"The present talk of internationalism has all come about under pressure. We never get such ideas and theories except in times of agitation and under pressure of external stress. I don't consider it at all likely that European countries will ever be federated into a United States of Europe. I do not believe that there will ever be permanent peace. But I do hope that when this present war ends there will be an end also of hysterical armament. Certainly the frantic preparations for war of the last forty years were abnormal."

"I like your New York immensely and particularly your skyscrapers. No, I never saw anything like them before; you know this is my first visit to America." Mr. Chesterton skipped abruptly from war in Europe to peace, sighing in these United States. "I've been up in the Woolworth tower already."

"It's a wonderful sight, the view you get from up there, isn't it? But what a contrast between that and your beautiful little town hall—City Hall, I



Cecil Chesterton.

mean—across the park. That is such an exquisite little bit of eighteenth-century architecture. It fairly breathes

American history. I could think of a person might have built it. If I were something about New York, as I un-

doubtedly shall, it will probably centre about the part of the city—the Woolworth Building and the City Hall."

"But you have no soldiers over here, at least none in sight, and I do miss seeing them. I know you have some, of course, but I don't see why you want to keep them hidden all the time. Yes, I do heartily believe in having them about. I believe every nation ought to have a certain amount of parade of arms."

"The soldiers needn't overrun the place as they seem to in France or Italy, but at least you might keep a few in sight, it seems to me. You see, I believe in moderation in all things, in soldiers as in drink."

And then Mr. Chesterton, having finished a leisurely tea, was ready for more sightseeing about this big city, which he finds so fascinating and in which his editorial eye sees so much copy.

### SKIPPER A WAR VICTIM.

THE case of Capt. Paul Kreibohm, former commander of the Red Star liner *Kronland*, is stirring more than usual interest in shipping circles. Complications arising from the war caused Capt. Kreibohm to lose his command, although he is an American citizen and the *Kronland* at the time was flying the American flag.

About ten minutes before the *Kronland* was to sail from Liverpool for New York the captain was informed that he was no longer in command and he had hardly time to gather his things together and leave before the vessel was under way in command of Capt. Hill. The order came from the International Mercantile Marine office at Liverpool. Subsequently Capt. Kreibohm was brought to this country as a passenger on the *Finland* and is now living with his family in The Bronx. Although he is still on half pay he is practically "on the beach" so far as a prospective job is concerned.

It will be remembered that Capt. Kreibohm was one of the heroes of the Volturno disaster and that he still has honors coming to him from Congress because of his rescue of eighty-eight of the burning ship's passengers. He has

already received a medal from the Humane Society here, the order of the Knight of the Crown from King Albert of Belgium and a piece of plate from the Benevolent Association of Liverpool in recognition of his services.

"I cannot understand why my command was taken from me," said Capt. Kreibohm, "although I suppose it is an exigency of the war and that I am no worse off than many other captains. However, the fact that I had always served in English ships until I took the *Kronland* and that I had been eighteen years with the Red Star Line with nothing against me should have counted in my favor."

"Perhaps they thought I was a German sympathizer because of my name, but the fact is I was not even born in Germany. Hanover was my birthplace, and at the time Hanover was a separate kingdom under British protection. I can remember the flag of Hanover, the British flag with a white horse in the centre. During the war in which Prussia took Hanover my father was a chaplain with the Cumberland Dragoons."

Capt. Kreibohm in stating his case says that following his first voyage in 1875 as an apprentice in an English ship he was never in a serious accident at sea, although he was aboard a ship which was under fire once in the harbor of Rio during a rebellion. He has transported many thousands of passengers across the Atlantic safely in all weathers.

"While at school at Antwerp I read a lot of Marryat's novels and that was the reason I went to sea, more than anything else, I guess," said the deposed skipper. "My first voyage was in an English ship out of Liverpool for Java. She was the *Fiji* of the Lamport & Holt Line."

"We finally reached Tientsin, but our skipper, who was a sort of reckless fellow, overran his anchors while attempting to moor and damaged his ship so badly that we were there for a long time before we went to Batavia to make permanent repairs. That's the only accident worth mentioning that happened to me while aboard ship."

As his native land was taken over by the Prussians in the war of 1869 Capt. Kreibohm declares that he feels toward Germany very much the same as many natives of Alsace-Lorraine do. He says that a good deal of the money he has saved during his lifetime is now in a bank in Antwerp.